

Cheetah Chatter

Published by Meridian Park Elementary School and the Meridian Park PTSA

Coronavirus Updates:

Please visit <https://www.shorelineschools.org/coronavirus> for up to date information on Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The next MP All
School Skate Night is on
Thursday, April 9th,
6-8pm.



Where:

Lynnwood Bowl and Skate
6210 200th St. S.W
Lynnwood, WA 98036

Admission Price:

\$8 per person, skates included
Inline Upgrade: \$3.25 additional

*Non-skating chaperones are free.
Please no drop-offs.*

See Annie Gage for scholarship
vouchers or email her at
annie.gage@shorelineschools.org.

The Yearbook is looking for photos!



If you have taken a photo in a classroom, on a field trip, at an after school activity, or at an event, and are willing to share it, please email it to Molly at moogie1221@gmail.com or the yearbook email at

mpptsayearbook@gmail.com. You can also post it to the MP parent FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/MeridianParkPTSA>.

Also look for the pre order forms coming home soon. Pre order deadline is May 1st! If you are interested in volunteering with the yearbook, email us! We have volunteer opportunities for as little as a few hours one time to year long positions. Together we can make the yearbook amazing!

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is approaching in May and we need your help creating raffle baskets for the staff to enjoy! The MPPTSA wish list is located at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2MTPIILZX42135?ref_=wl_share. Many items are \$15 and under. Please have items delivered before May 1st. Thank you for your help in supporting our teachers and staff!

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Upcoming Events

From the District:

*clubs, field trips, volunteers,
and extended care*

Field Trips and volunteers are postponed until at least March 20. Volunteer and vendor led clubs or activities are also postponed. This includes Chess Club, Drama and Drama Jr., Hip Hop, Mandarin, Math Club, Sewing, and Spanish. Extended Care and YMCA Before/After care are on a regular schedule. Please see [district website](#) or emails for more info.

Bad Apples (school play) Postponed

We have planned to postpone our school play until May. No performances this weekend. The director and parent leaders will finalize postponement plans this week and will share with everyone.

Wednesdays, March 11th, 18th & 25th
Early Release Days
1:50 pm

Friday, April 3rd
Gr. K, 1, 2 Family Science Night
Meridian Park Elementary

Thursday, April 9th
Final All School Skate Night
Lynnwood Bowl & Skate
6:00 – 8:00 pm, \$8.00 entry

April 15th - April 17th
Spring Book Fair
MP Library

April 20th - April 24th
SPRING BREAK

Thursday, May 14th
Gr. K, 1, 2 Family Science Night
Meridian Park Elementary

Cheetah Cheers

On February 27th, our kids attended the district Global Reading Challenge competition run by the King County Library. Below is a picture of the Revengeful Readers! A job well done!



Mrs. Keeley, Mrs. Peterson, Leo, Salma, Sodyta, Henry and (front) Naomi and Mina

SAVE ON SPIRIT WEAR!

Be sure to visit the [Meridian Park Spirit Wear store](#) to pick up your Cheetah gear! Receive 15% off Challenge T-shirts (items 3055, 3056) during the month of March with code **MAR20P**. Plus free shipping on all orders over \$50!



Go From "I Can't" To "I Can!"

At Mathnasium, we transform struggles into triumph! We'll help your student tackle math homework with ease and understanding. Our expert instructors work with your child on assignments to understand concepts and achieve mastery. Along the way, they'll develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills that apply not only to math homework, but also to test scores and even other academic subjects.

Teaching math is not just what we do, it's all we do. We're the authority in math education, with over 900 learning centers worldwide. **Start your child's transformation.**

Schedule a comprehensive free assessment today.

Changing Lives Through Math™



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SAT/ACT Prep

Homework Help

MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center

206-268-0724

www.mathnasium.com/shoreline

MP PTSA
BLACK
LIVES
MATTER
AT SCHOOL

BOOK
DRIVE



MP PTSA BLACK LIVES MATTER AT SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOK DRIVE

Thank you to all who donated books to the MP PTSA Black Lives Matter at School Library Book Drive! Together, we brought in 42 new books to support representation and diversity in our library!

If you'd still like to make a purchase, you can do so here: bit.ly/BLMatMeridianPark (note: this link will direct you to our wish list on AmazonSmile — be sure to select **Meridian Park Family Association PTSA** as your designated non-profit to support!). Selected titles provide language about race and diversity, historical context surrounding social justice movements, fictional titles featuring black youth as the main characters, and bilingual texts that celebrate Ethiopian languages and culture.

PTSA LINKS

[BECOME A PTSA MEMBER](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

[PTSA CALENDAR](#)

[FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK](#)

[LINK YOUR FRED MEYER](#)

[REWARDS CARD](#)

[SUPPORT US ON AMAZON SMILE](#)

Principal's Letter

Dear Families –

We hope this finds your family enjoying the longer and lighter days of March!

Thanks for conferences. Continuing communication is also important. Our general guideline is to communicate with staff closest to the situation and resolve at the lowest level possible. It's helpful to communicate quickly, privately, and take a positive approach. While admins or deans are happy to help, it's usually faster and easier to work things out directly with staff who are directly involved. Thanks as always for our partnership.

We know that Wednesday early release impacts families, and we are grateful for the professional learning time. We are engaging in professional learning individually, in our teams, and with district workshops focused on academic discourse. Thanks again for your support on Wednesdays.

Safety is our highest priority. This includes making every effort to keep our community healthy by washing hands, covering our cough, and staying home if we feel sick. As one school in the Shoreline School District, we appreciate your understanding that we are part of a bigger system. We follow guidance from our district, King County, and State. Please go to this site on the district site for more info. <https://www.shorelineschools.org/Domain/1960>

The results of our fall survey are posted on our website, and we invite you to take a look. Thanks to our student leaders and advisors Tricia and Maren Norton, our Student Council is very active this year with spirit and service activities. We look forward to seeing you again soon at MP.

David Tadlock, Principal



One Community • Stronger Together
Celebrating 26 Years of Greatness

The MPPTSA is looking for businesses to promote in our Cheetah Chatter newsletter and on our website. We would love to provide this opportunity to you. Email Naomi Hillyard at naomihillyard@gmail.com or text 206-355-7365 for more information.



Tadlock Tip

March can be a long month for busy families. I encourage Family Face Time: playing games, playing outside, reading, meals, and exercise. Be consistent with family routines and habits for balance and together time: meals without electronics, family meetings, or walks. If needed, tell your kids: 'Mr.T says that family face time matters.'

State Testing

Students in grades 3-4-5-6 will be involved in state testing in the month of May. Dates by grade level will be provided soon. Please plan now to limit absences during the month of May.

Moving?

We are starting to plan for next year! If you know that your family will not be returning to MP, please call the office and let us know! Thanks.

Family Science Nights

(STEM Nights) are scheduled for grades K-1-2 on April 3 and for grades 3-4-5-6 on May 14. Please mark the family calendar for these fun family nights involving many different science, technology, engineering, and math activities.

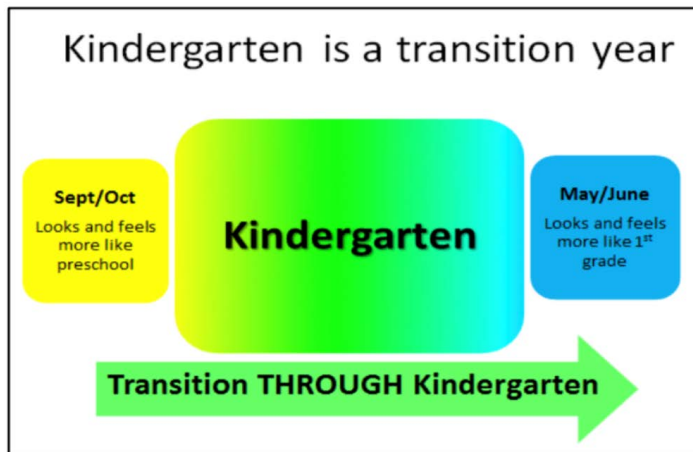
K-1-2 Family Science Night – April 3
3-4-5-6 Family Science Night – May 14

Shoreline School District #412 does not discriminate against any protected classes. For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, including the address and phone number of the Title IX officer, visit http://www.shorelineschools.org/info/title_ix.php

Cheetah Notes

Kindergarten News

Congratulations on completing 100 days of school as a kindergarten family! In many of the tours and welcome events in the fall, I talked about how the first part of the kindergarten school year looks and feels more like preschool and the second part looks and feels more like 1st grade. We are definitely getting into that 1st grade look and feel now; our young scholars are making that transition beautifully!



From the Health Office

Hello Meridian Park Families,

Please make sure you are taking the following steps to reduce the risk of spreading viral respiratory infections:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces.
- Stay at home and away from others if you are feeling ill.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Meridian Park Health Office at 206-393-4124.

New KG Office Manager/Registrar

I am excited to announce that our new kindergarten Office Manager/Registrar will start next week! Her name is Anne Musquiz and she comes to us with vast experience in both administrative support and in early childhood education. I want to thank the Meridian Park Office Staff (Annie Bach and Jake Goett), who have been so supportive while we searched for a great candidate to fill this very important position. Please continue using the email address mp.attendance@shorelineschools.org to communicate absences or anything attendance related. And if you stop into the office, please say hi to Anne and help give her a warm welcome!



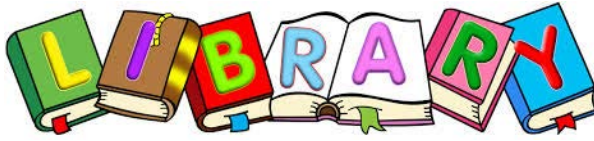
New KG Music Teacher

I am also excited to announce that our KG Music Specialist, Blyn Burroughs, had her baby Monday morning. Feel free to share with your children that Ms. Burroughs had a baby girl named Sophia and both mom and baby are happy and healthy. Her replacement, Ms. Jan Abrahamson (the students know her as “Ms. A”), started with us on Monday and it has been such a pleasure hearing the sounds of her guitar and kids happily signing coming from her room.



Cheetah Notes

From the Library



Maker Space Projects

I have been building a maker space program in the library for the past couple of years, incorporating more hands-on materials and activities into library instruction. This spring, various grade levels will work on maker space projects that enhance our literature and research studies.

It would be helpful to have more of the following supplies:

- pizza boxes or similar (clean)
- cardboard tubes/rolls
- thin cardboard (can be cut with strong scissors)

Overdue Library Books – Can you help us?

When students check out books, they can keep them for up to two weeks. Lately, students have been keeping books beyond the two-week due dates. At this point, the books are overdue. When students have overdue books, they cannot check out new books. And, other students cannot check out the books that have not been returned.

Books are very expensive. We cannot afford to replace overdue books.

We send email and paper notices to parents if and when books have been overdue for an extended period of time.

If you receive such a notice, please help your children look for the books in the house, care, backpacks, and so on.

Thank you for your help!

Meridian Park's Own Capstone eBook Library

We have our very own eBook library at Meridian Park. These books are available all the time, day or night, weekday or weekend. You can “check them out” whenever you like, on a school computer or a home device.

Here is the link to our eBook Library:

<http://www.mycapstonelibrary.com/login/index.html>

Our username is **mpark**. Our password is **school**.

*Happy Reading,
Jenny Hillger*



Our spring book fair will run
Wednesday through Friday, April 15th
- 17th, with previews for classes on
Wednesday, April 15th.

The hours are:

Wednesday, April 15th,

*Previews for Classes, throughout the
School Day (No sales)*

Thursday, April 16th,

8:40 AM – 4:00 PM, 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Friday, April 17th,

8:40 AM – 1:15 PM

We will set up the book fair on
Tuesday, April 14th, 3:00 – 4:00.

We are able to run successful book
fairs because of great volunteers
who help out.

If you are able to help out at the book
fair on April 16th and/or 17th, or if you
can help us to set up the book fair on

April 14th, please let Jenny Hillger,
MP librarian, know via email

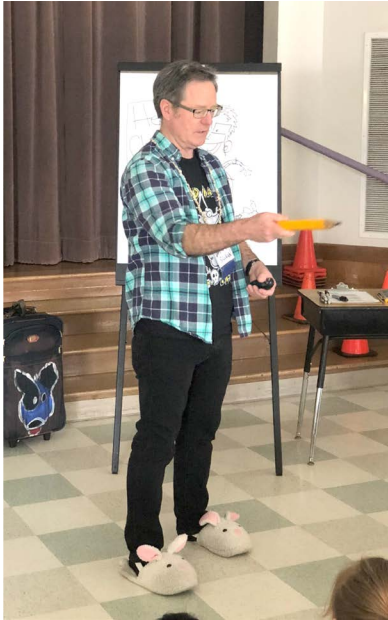
jenny.hillger@shorelineschools.org
or by phone (206-393-4125).

To preview book fair selections
and read other details about the
book fair, click here:

[https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/
bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?
method=homepage&url=meridian-
parkelementaryschl](https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bookfairs/cptoolkit/homepage.do?method=homepage&url=meridian-parkelementaryschl)

Cheetah Notes

From the Library



Local Author and Illustrator Dana Sullivan Visits Meridian Park First – Sixth Graders

MP Cheetahs are so fortunate! With a generous grant from the Shoreline Public Schools Foundation and an annual donation from our own MP PTSA, first through sixth grade students participated in small assemblies with local author and illustrator Dana Sullivan on February 26th and 27th. Mr. Sullivan shared his picture books, as well as where he gets his ideas, with first and second grade students. He demonstrated how he draws his characters and created some with the students. Third through sixth graders had hands-on experiences with Dana, learning techniques for and drawing different comic-style characters and storylines. Dana kept students engaged and interested in his presentations and activities. He was so inspiring. Students learned a lot and had fun, all at the same time!

Thank You, Shoreline Foundation and MP PTSA!



MONTHLY COMMUNITY COFFEE March Meeting Canceled, Next Meeting April 16th

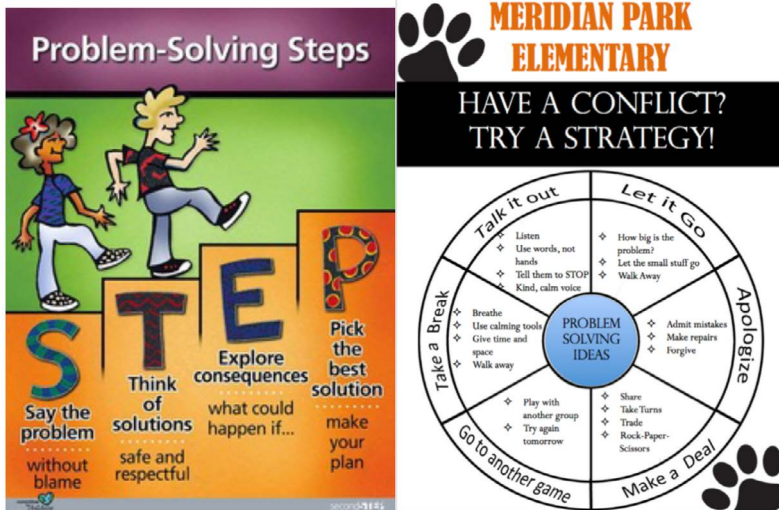
This year, MP PTSA is hosting monthly Community Coffees to provide a casual space for learning more about our school and each other. Children are welcome. Please let us know if you have any specific needs, and we will do our best to accommodate them.

Remaining 2019-20 Community Coffee Dates: April 16th & May 21st

[Learn more and RSVP here.](#)

Cheetah Notes

Counselor's Corner



Character Trait of the Month: This month students are learning and practicing the trait of **HONESTY!** Students will be learning about and practicing being truthful, sincere and trustworthy. Some examples may include returning lost items to their owner, doing what they say they will do, and truthful reporting.

At the end of this month we celebrate students who have been demonstrating this trait in our VIC (Very Important Cheetah) Lunch. Please see the [booklist](#) for great ideas on how to continue the learning at home with trait specific books.

The MP Character Traits are part of our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) model. A new Tier 1 (all students get) intervention we are excited about is our playground problem solving station! Students learned the Second Step problem solving steps at a recent Behavior Expectation Rodeo. That poster, along with the strategy wheel, are always out at recess for students to refer to with the goal of learning how to problem solve independently. Feel free to use it at home too!

Katie McCain, M.Ed.
Meridian Park School Counselor
206-393-1785

From the Music Department



SPRING MUSIC PERFORMANCES

Please put these dates on your family calendar now, as calendars fill up fast! You won't want to miss them!

MAY

Meridian Park Arts Festival,
Thursday, May 21, 2020:

2nd grade and 1/2nd
combination classes sing at 6:30 p.m.

4th grade and 3/4th
combination classes sing at 7:00 p.m.

JUNE

1st grade

Sings at 6:15 at the PTSA Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

5th grade

Sings at 9:30 a.m. at their moving up program
Tuesday, June 16, 2020.

6th grade

Sings at 9:30 a.m. at their moving up program
Wednesday June 17, 2020.

ANNUAL SYMPHONY FIELD TRIP

5th grade, 4th/5th, and 5th/6th classes will be taking a field trip to Seattle Symphony's concert "Link Up: The Orchestra Moves" at Benaroya Hall, Thursday May 7. Students will listen, sing along, play recorder and move to music performed by Seattle Symphony. "March" onward! And sing! It's almost spring! Ms. Anderson and the Singing Cheetahs of 601

Link Your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Meridian Park PTSA Support Meridian Park PTSA by [linking your Fred Meyer Rewards card today](#) [Meridian Park PTSA #TY486].

Don't worry – you'll still earn fuel points, rewards points, and rebates all while supporting your school. It's a win-win!

PTSA News

KEEP MP PTSA GOING STRONG!

We are so grateful for the PTSA volunteers who make all that we do possible! Many hands make for light work, and we have many big and small opportunities to help support our school community next school year. Taking on a leadership role is a great way to be involved in an impactful way in the culture of our community! Please consider one of the following roles for next school year. Email mpptsapresident@gmail.com for more information.

OPEN PTSA POSITIONS FOR 2020/21:

CO-PRESIDENT - Work alongside the current president overseeing the PTSA and guiding our membership.

CO-TREASURER - Manage and keep the budget.

CO-SECRETARY - Keep up with communications, meeting agendas, and notes.

CO-VP OF EVENTS / FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - Oversee MP PTSA's connection to families through organization of community events.

CO-VP OF VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT - Gather and organize the list of 100+ volunteers. Send emails about opportunities according to their interests and the needs of the PTSA.

ELL/BILINGUAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE - Help keep the needs of our English Language Learners and bilingual students at the forefront of PTSA efforts.

SPECIAL NEEDS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE - Advocate for our students with special needs and act as liaison between MP PTSA and the Shoreline Special Needs PTSA.

HI-CAP BOARD REPRESENTATIVE - Help keep MP PTSA up-to-date with Shoreline's Hi Cap program and students and act as liaison between MP PTSA and the Shoreline Hi Cap Parent Association.

READ-A-THON LEAD - 6-7 week project that touches every classroom from the end of February through March.

DRAMA CLUB LEAD - Oversee rehearsals and manage the production of our annual drama performance

FAMILY SERVICES LEAD - Organize the annual holiday food drive and collect Boxtop receipts year-round.

GRANTS COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR - Help promote and evaluate MP PTSA grants that support teachers, staff, and community — typically runs from November through February.

MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR - Staff the membership table at the Back to School BBQ, collect and enter data from membership envelopes into our online database, and add up checks and prepare for deposit.

STAFF & TEACHER APPRECIATION LEAD - Organize quarterly potlucks and school-wide efforts for Teacher Appreciation Week.

GREEN TEAM LEAD - Encourage and train the student Green Team, who help fellow students recycle and compost in the lunchroom by standing at garbage cans and help determine which items go into each bin.

Community Resources

Meridian Park Elementary

www.shorelineschools.org/meridianpark/

David Tadlock, Principal
david.tadlock@shorelineschools.org

Derek Dalasta, Kinder Administrator
derek.dalasta@shorelineschools.org

Jake Goett, Registrar

Annie Bach, Office Manager

Suzy Cowgill, Kinder Office Manager

Tama Leahy, School Nurse

Katie McCain / Suz Fix, Counselor

Kim Kauffman, Kinder Counselor

Annie Gage, Family Advocate

Susie Moore, Kinder Family Advocate



2019-2020 MP PTSA
mpptsa.org

Executive Committee

Gretchen Bjork Knudsen, President
mpptsapresident@gmail.com

Briana Bell, Secretary
mpptsasecretary@gmail.com

Ann Yee / Callie Steward, Co-Treasurers
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Dawn Moser, VP of Events
mpptsavpevents@gmail.com

Mary Kate Horwood / Erika Botch
Co-VP of Programs/Clubs
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Suni Tolton / Mary Webb /
Katherine Vangunst, Grants
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Nauko Grimlund,
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Nancy Jenkins, Webmaster
mpptsawebsite@gmail.com

Elizabeth Swan, Friday Email Blasts

Hannah Peterson / Lara Gino,
Teacher Representatives

Follow the MP PTSA on Facebook

facebook

Cheetah Chatter is published monthly by
Meridian Park Elementary and
the Meridian Park PTSA

Coronavirus Updates (COVID-19)

The [Washington State Department of Public Health](http://www.wa.gov/health) is the lead agency for the State's response to COVID-19. They are working closely with [Public Health – Seattle & King County](http://www.seattle.gov/health) on coordinating and communicating about the response in King County, which includes Shoreline. Please go to their websites for the latest information. King County-Seattle Public Health has a [Fact Sheet](#), translated into Amharic, Chinese (Simplified), Chinese Traditional, Khmer, Korean, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Thai.

Free Tax Help

Saturdays, Feb. 1-April 11, 11am-4pm,

Thursdays, Feb. 6-April 9, 3:30pm-8pm

Shoreline Library, , 345 NE 175th St.

Sponsored by AARP. Free individualized tax preparation assistance provided by trained AARP volunteers. No age or income limits. Electronic filing will be available. First come, first served. Registration not required.

Specialized Recreation Spring Fling Dance

Friday, March 20, 6 – 8 pm

Spartan Recreation Center, 202 NE 185th Street

Dance the night away with friends! \$7 ticket fee. Bring your favorite song request for the DJ. Come with a date or solo. Light refreshments will be provided (please eat dinner before you come). Registration is helpful, but not required. Contact Stephanie Ruiz-Carbajal sruizcarbajal@shorelinewa.gov or 206-801-2635 for more info.

Home Improvement Workshop and Vendor Fair

3 workshops: Tuesdays,
March 31, April 28, and
May 19, 6–8:00pm

Shoreline City Hall,
17500 Midvale Avenue N.

3 free workshops in
March, April, and May to
answer questions about
your home improvement
project! Sign up for an
appointment with city
staff to discuss your
project on the [Home Improvement Workshops page](#). No appointment is necessary to attend the Vendor Fair of private home improvement businesses.

Contact Jarrod Lewis at
(206) 801-2521 or
jlewis@shorelinewa.gov
with questions.

Shorecrest presents
Astronomy Night

@Shorecrest High School
15343 25th Ave NE, Shoreline, WA 98155
April 14th, 2020 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Free!

Rain or shine - Fun For All Ages
Crafts, Activities, Displays, Planetarium, and Much More!